namely,workload available manpower, time taken for verification of payment challans etc. Because of these reasons there is some time lag between the date of filing of return and the date of issuance of refund. In some cases refunds are delayed because there is a deficiency in the return because of which the refund cannot be issued unless the deficiency is rectified by the assessee. The details regarding claims for refunds pending, disposed of and the balance outstandings for the period 1998-99 to 2000-2001 (upto 30.9.2000) are as follows:

Financial year	No. of refund claims	No. of claims disposed	Balance outstanding
1998-99	248,170	147,672	100,498
1999-2000	516,095	357,703	158392
2000-2001 (upto 30.9.2000)	359,252	207307	151,945

Waiving of loan of Bihar

† 2645. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RA1: Will the Minister of FIN ANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would waive the loan of Bihar amounting to Rs. 10583 crores after the division of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Debt position of all States has been assessed by the Eleventh Finance Commission who have recommended devolutions from the Centre to the States. Central support to the State of undivided Bihar has been substantially increased from Rs. 24656 crores under TFC award to Rs. 57278 crores under EFC. Out of this, Rs. 45174.42 crores has been allocated as the share of Bihar after Reorganisation. The Ways & Means limits of the State of Bihar has been

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

enhanced from Rs. 195 crores to Rs. 220 crores *w.e.f.* 1st Feb., 2001 and the period of continuous overdraft entailing suspension of payment is also increased from 10 to 12 days. All these efforts would help the State in managing its cash position, without depending on a general waiver on loans payable to Government of India.

MNCs trading in telecom equipments

2646. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some multinational companies which had declared themselves as manufacturing companies of Telecom Equipments to Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) are actually involved in trading of such equipments instead of manufacturing;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome of the same; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government against such emng companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Multinational companies are permitted to import finished equipment provided they are allowed to import and market such equipment by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) as per the Foreign Direct Investment Policy.

(b) No violation of the above policy has been reported.

(c) and (d) Question do not arise.

Grant-in-aid to Rajasthan

† 2647. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant provided to Rajasthan in the financial years of 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 by the Ministry of Finance alongwith the details of the heads, programmes or projects and specific field; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.